

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A terminal device,  
comprising:

\_\_\_\_\_ display means;

\_\_\_\_\_ mediating means; and

\_\_\_\_\_ authentication-information transmitting means<sub>7i</sub>;

wherein the display means ~~comprises~~ having (i) a display function for displaying electronic information provided through a network so that a user can browse the information<sub>7i</sub>,  
(ii) a specifying-information receiving function for receiving specifying information for specifying the mediating means<sub>7i</sub>, and  
(iii) a specifying function for specifying the mediating means by using the received specifying information<sub>7i</sub>;

the mediating means being operable to ~~is specified by the specifying function and starts~~ the authentication-information transmitting means when specified by the specifying function<sub>7i</sub>; and

the authentication-information transmitting means ~~is started by the mediating means and~~ being operable to transmits device-authentication information to an authentication server.

2. (currently amended) A terminal device according to Claim 1, further comprising:

authentication-result receiving means for receiving an authentication result from the authentication server;

authentication-result transmitting means for transmitting the received authentication result to a providing server ~~for~~operable to provide electronic information; and

electronic-information receiving means for receiving electronic information transmitted from the providing server based on the transmitted authentication result.

3. (currently amended) A terminal device according to Claim 2, wherein the mediating means ~~comprises~~has a using function for using the electronic information received from the providing server.

4. (currently amended) A terminal device according to Claim 2, further comprising:

requesting means for sending a requesting for electronic information to the providing server,

wherein the specifying-information receiving function receives specifying information ~~which is~~ transmitted

from the providing server based on the request for electronic information.

5. (currently amended) A terminal device according to Claim 1, wherein

\_\_\_\_\_the specifying-information receiving function receives specifying information including access information used for accessing the authentication server, and

the authentication-information transmitting means accesses the authentication server ~~by~~using the received access information.

6. (currently amended) A terminal device according to Claim 5, wherein the authentication server ~~comprises~~includes a plurality of authentication servers, and the specifying-information receiving function receives specifying information including access information for each of the plurality of authentication servers ranked in an access precedence order.

7. (currently amended) A terminal device according to Claim 2, wherein

the specifying-information receiving function receives specifying information including access information used ~~for~~to accessing the providing server, and

the authentication-result transmitting means accesses the providing server ~~by~~ using the received access information.

8. (currently amended) A providing server for providing electronic information to ~~the~~a terminal device ~~according to Claim 2, the terminal device including display means, mediating means and authentication-information transmitting means, the providing server comprising:~~

specifying-information transmitting means for transmitting specifying information ~~used by~~to the display means of the terminal device for specifying the mediating means ~~which starts the authentication-information transmitting means;~~

authentication-result receiving means for receiving an authentication result from the terminal device; and

electronic-information transmitting means for transmitting electronic information to the terminal device based on the received authentication result.

9. (currently amended) An method of using ~~electronic-information using method performed in a computer~~

~~comprising~~having display means~~,~~, mediating means~~,~~, and authentication-information transmitting means, the method comprising:

~~a display step of realizing, by the display means, a display function for displaying electronic information provided through a network so that a user can browse the information;~~a specifying information receiving function for  
receiving specifying information for specifying the mediating means;~~and a specifying function for specifying the mediating means by using the received specifying information;~~

~~a mediating step of specifying the mediating means by the specifying function in the display step and allowing the mediating means to~~using the received specifying information;

starting the authentication-information transmitting means when the mediating means is specified; and

~~an authentication information transmitting step of transmitting device-authentication information to an authentication server by starting~~when the authentication-information transmitting means in the mediating step is started.

10. (currently amended) A ~~method of providing~~method of providing electronic-information ~~providing method used in~~from a providing

~~server for providing electronic information to the~~ a terminal device ~~according to Claim 2,~~

~~—wherein the providing server comprises~~ including specifying-information transmitting means<sub>7</sub>, authentication-result receiving means<sub>7</sub>, and electronic-information transmitting means<sub>7</sub>; and the terminal device including display means, mediating means, and authentication-information transmitting means,

~~—the electronic information providing method~~ comprises ing:

~~a specifying information transmitting step of transmitting, by the specifying information transmitting means,~~ specifying information used by the display means of the terminal device for specifying the mediating means ~~for~~ from the specifying-information transmitting means to the display means of the terminal device, the mediating means using the specifying information to starting the authentication-information transmitting means;

~~an authentication result receiving step of receiving, by~~ in the authentication-result receiving means<sub>7</sub> an authentication result sent from the terminal device; and

~~an electronic information transmitting step of transmitting, by~~ electronic information from the electronic-information transmitting means, electronic information to the terminal device based on the received authentication result.

11. (cancelled)

12. (cancelled)

13. (currently amended) A computer-readable storage medium ~~storing~~recorded with a ~~terminal device~~ program for ~~realizing, in~~causing a computer, to execute a method of processing information, the computer being operable to perform a display function, a mediating function and an authentication-information transmitting function, the method comprising:

~~a display function a mediating function; and an authentication-information transmitting function,~~

~~—wherein the display function comprises a display function for displaying electronic information provided through a network so that a user can browse the information; a specifying information receiving function for~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_receiving specifying information for specifying the mediating function; and a specifying function for~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_specifying the mediating function by using the received specifying information;~~

~~the mediating function is specified by the specifying function and start~~ing the authentication-information transmitting function, when the mediating function is specified;

and

~~the authentication information transmitting~~  
~~function is started by the mediating function and transmitting~~  
device-authentication information to an authentication server  
when the authentication-information transmitting function is  
started.

14. (currently amended) A computer-readable storage  
medium ~~storing~~recorded with a ~~providing server program~~ for  
causing a computer to execute a method of providing electronic  
information to the a terminal device according to Claim 2, the  
terminal device being operable to perform a display function, a  
mediating function and an authorization-information transmitting  
function, the method comprising:~~program realizes, in a computer:~~

~~a specifying information transmitting function~~  
~~for transmitting specifying information to the terminal device,~~  
the specifying information being used by the display function of  
the terminal device for specifying the mediating function,  
~~which~~and the mediating function starts~~ing~~ the authentication-  
information transmitting function when the mediating function is  
specified;

~~an authentication result receiving function for~~  
receiving an authentication result from the terminal device; and

~~an electronic information transmitting function~~  
~~for transmitting electronic information to the terminal device~~  
based on the received authentication result.

15. (currently amended) A terminal device,  
comprising:

\_\_\_\_\_ information communication means;

\_\_\_\_\_ electronic-information using means; and

\_\_\_\_\_ authentication-information management means;

wherein the information communication means  
~~comprises~~ having (i) a function for receiving authentication-  
trigger information required for using electronic information  
provided through a network, (ii) a function for analyzing  
specifying information for specifying the electronic-information  
using means based on the authentication-trigger information,  
and (iii) a specifying function for specifying the electronic-  
information using means based on the specifying information;

the electronic-information using means being  
~~operable to~~ ~~is specified by the specifying function and starts~~  
the authentication-information management means, when specified  
by the specifying function; and

the authentication-information management means  
~~is started by the electronic-information using means, being~~  
operable to read device-authentication information, and to  
transmits the device-authentication information to an  
authentication server.

16. (currently amended) A terminal device according to Claim 15, wherein

~~wherein~~ the authentication-information management means receives an authentication result from the authentication server,

the electronic-information using means transmits the authentication result to a providing server ~~which~~ operable to provides electronic information, and

the information communication means receives electronic information transmitted from the providing server based on the transmitted authentication result.

17. (currently amended) A terminal device according to Claim 16, wherein the electronic-information using means ~~comprises~~ has a using function for using the electronic information received from the providing server.

18. (currently amended) A terminal device according to Claim 17, wherein the electronic-information using means ~~allows~~ is operable to enable a user to browse electronic information, to plays back electronic information as music content, or to plays back electronic information as moving-picture content.

19. (currently amended) A terminal device according to Claim 15, wherein the authentication-trigger information includes authentication-server access information used ~~for~~to accessing the authentication server.

20. (currently amended) A terminal device according to Claim 19, wherein the authentication server includes a plurality of authentication servers, and the authentication-trigger information includes authentication-server access information for each of the plurality of authentication servers ranked in an access precedence order.

21. (currently amended) A terminal device according to Claim 16, wherein

\_\_\_\_\_ the authentication-trigger information includes providing-server access information used ~~for~~to accessing the providing server, and

\_\_\_\_\_ the authentication result is transmitted to the providing server ~~by~~-using the providing-server access information.

22. (currently amended) A providing server for providing electronic information requiring authentication to a terminal device, the providing server comprising:

authentication-trigger-information transmitting means for transmitting, to the terminal device, authentication-trigger information including specifying information for specifying electronic-information using means ~~which starts authentication-information management means;~~

authentication-result receiving means for receiving, ~~from the terminal device,~~ an authentication result ~~offrom the terminal device generated in an authentication server;~~ and

electronic-information providing means for providing electronic information to the terminal device based on the received authentication result.

23. (currently amended) An method of using ~~electronic- information using method performed in a terminal device comprising~~ having information communication means, electronic-information using means, and authentication-information management means, the method comprising:

~~an information communication step of processing, by the information communication means, a function for receiving authentication-trigger information required for using electronic information provided through a network,~~ a function for

analyzing specifying information for specifying the electronic-information using means based on the

authentication-trigger information,~~;~~ ~~and a specifying function~~  
for

~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ specifying the electronic-information using means  
based on the specifying information;

~~a starting step of starting the authentication-~~  
information management means ~~by being~~when specified by the  
specifying function ~~in the information communication step~~; and

~~an authentication information management step of~~  
~~starting the authentication information management means in the~~  
~~starting step~~, reading device-authentication information, and  
transmitting the device-authentication information to an  
authentication server.

24. (currently amended) An method of using  
electronic-information using method according to Claim 23,  
further comprising:

~~wherein, in the authentication information~~  
~~management step~~, receiving in the authentication-information  
management means ~~receives~~ an authentication result from the  
authentication server,~~;~~ ~~and~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ transmitting the authentication result from the  
authentication-information management means to a providing  
server for providing electronic information,~~;~~ and

~~the information communication step comprises an electronic information receiving step, in which~~receiving in the information communication means ~~receives~~ electronic information transmitted from the providing server based on the authentication result.

25. (currently amended) An method of using ~~electronic\_ information using method~~ according to Claim 24, further comprising: ~~an electronic information using step, in which the electronic information using means further comprises a using function for~~  
\_\_\_\_\_ using the electronic information received from the providing server in the electronic information using means.

26. (currently amended) An method of using ~~electronic\_ information using method~~ according to Claim 25, wherein the electronic-information using means is operable to enable~~allows~~ a user to browse the electronic information, to ~~plays~~ back electronic information as music content, or to ~~plays~~ back electronic information as moving-picture content.

27. (currently amended) An method of using ~~electronic\_ information using method~~ according to Claim 23, wherein the authentication-trigger information includes

authentication-server access information used ~~for~~to accessing the authentication server.

28. (currently amended) An method of using  
~~electronic-information using method~~ according to Claim 27,  
wherein the authentication server includes a plurality of  
authentication servers, and the authentication-trigger  
information includes authentication-server access information  
for each of the plurality of authentication servers ranked in an  
access precedence order.

29. (currently amended) An method of using  
~~electronic-information using method~~ according to Claim 24,  
wherein  
the authentication-trigger information includes  
providing-server access information used ~~for~~to accessing the  
providing server, and, ~~in the authentication information~~  
~~management step,~~ the step of transmitting the authentication  
result includes transmitted the authentication result from  
the authentication-information management means to the providing  
~~server by~~ using the providing-server access information.

30. (currently amended) An method of providing  
~~electronic-information providing method performed in a~~

~~providing server for providing electronic information requiring authentication from a providing server to a terminal device, the method comprising:~~

~~an authentication trigger information transmitting step of transmitting, from the providing server to the terminal device, authentication-trigger information including specifying information for specifying electronic-information using means for starting authentication-information management means;~~

~~an authentication result receiving step of receiving, from the terminal device, an authentication result of for the terminal device generated in an authentication server; and~~

~~an electronic information providing step of providing electronic information to the terminal device based on the received authentication result.~~

31. (currently amended) A recording medium recorded with a terminal device program for causing a computer to execute a method of processing information, the computer being operable to perform an information communication function, an electronic-information using function, and an authentication-information management function, the method comprising:

~~an information communication function; an electronic information using function; and an authentication information management function,~~

~~wherein pursuant to the information communication function, comprises a function for (i) receiving authentication-trigger information required for using electronic information provided through a network, a function for (ii) analyzing specifying information for specifying the electronic-information using meansfunction based on the authentication-trigger information, and (iii) a specifying function for specifying the electronic-information using meansfunction based on the specifying information;~~

~~pursuant to the electronic-information using means is specified by the specifying function andfunction, starting the authentication-information management meansfunction; and~~

~~pursuant to the authentication-information management means is started by the electronic-information using meansfunction, reading device-authentication information, and transmitting the device-authentication information to an authentication server.~~

32. (currently amended) A ~~terminal device~~ programrecording medium according to Claim 31, wherein the

~~following functions are realized in a computer~~information processing method further comprises:

~~an authentication result receiving function for~~  
receiving an authentication result from the authentication server;

~~an authentication result transmitting function~~  
~~for transmitting the received authentication result to a~~  
providing server for providing electronic information; and

~~an electronic information receiving function for~~  
receiving electronic information transmitted from the providing server based on the transmitted authentication result.

33. (currently amended) A ~~terminal device~~  
~~program~~recording medium according to Claim 31, wherein the  
information processing method further comprises, pursuant to the  
electronic-information using function, ~~comprises a using~~  
~~function for using the~~ electronic information received from the  
providing server.

34. (currently amended) A ~~terminal device~~  
~~program~~recording medium according to Claim 33, wherein the  
information processing method further comprises, pursuant to the  
electronic-information using function, ~~allows~~enabling a user to  
browse the electronic information, ~~playing~~back electronic

information as music content, or playing back electronic information as moving-picture content.

35. (currently amended) A ~~terminal device~~ programrecording medium according to Claim 31, wherein the authentication-trigger information includes authentication-server access information used ~~for~~to ~~accessing~~ the authentication server.

36. (currently amended) A ~~terminal device~~ programrecording medium according to Claim 31, wherein the authentication server ~~comprises~~includes a plurality of authentication servers, and the authentication-trigger information includes authentication-server access information for each of the plurality of authentication servers ranked in an access precedence order.

37. (currently amended) A ~~terminal device~~ programrecording medium according to Claim 32, wherein the authentication-trigger information includes providing-server access information used ~~for~~to ~~accessing~~ the providing server, and the step of transmitting the authentication result ~~includes~~is transmitteding the authentication result to the

providing server ~~by~~ using the providing-server access information.

38. (currently amended) A recording medium recorded with a ~~providing-server~~ program for causing a computer to execute a method ~~of performed in a providing server~~ for providing electronic information requiring authentication from a providing server to a terminal device, wherein ~~the following functions are realized in a computer~~ the method comprising:

~~an authentication trigger information transmitting function for transmitting,~~ from the providing server to the terminal device, authentication-trigger information including specifying information for specifying electronic-information using means ~~for starting authentication-information management means;~~

~~an authentication result receiving function for receiving,~~ from the terminal device, an authentication result ~~of for the terminal device generated in an authentication server;~~ and

~~an electronic information providing function for providing electronic information~~ to the terminal device based on the received authentication result.